



LEGISLATURE

# DRAFT MINUTES

## NATIVE AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE

Tuesday, December 10, 2019 | 4:00 p.m. | 20 House Building

### Members Present:

Sen. David P. Hinkins, Chair  
Rep. Christine F. Watkins, Chair  
Sen. Jani Iwamoto  
Rep. Lee B. Perry  
Rep. Angela Romero  
Rep. Mark A. Wheatley

### Members Absent:

Sen. Ronald Winterton  
Rep. Douglas V. Sagers

### Staff Present:

Mr. Art L. Hunsaker, Policy Analyst  
Ms. Patricia Owen, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Cherish Cosman, Administrative Assistant

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

Chair Hinkins called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

## 1 . Committee Business

**MOTION:** Rep. Watkins moved to approve the minutes from the November 1, 2019 meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 2.

### Yeas-6

Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. J. Iwamoto  
Rep. L. Perry  
Rep. A. Romero  
Rep. C. Watkins  
Rep. M. Wheatley

### Nays-0

### Absent-2

Rep. D. Sagers  
Sen. R. Winterton

## [2 - Native American Education Report](#)

## 2 . Native American Education Report

### [2C - Title VI Programs American Indian Education](#)

Dr. Harold Foster, American Indian Education Specialist, State Board of Education, presented details of the report for American Indian Education Title VI Programs, challenges Native American education faces, and answered committee questions.

### [2A - San Juan School District, Quality Teaching Incentive Program](#)

Ron Nielson, Superintendent, San Juan School District, presented an overview of the San Juan School District QTIP program from and responded to questions from the committee.

Christy Fitzgerald, San Juan Region Schools Director, San Juan School District, discussed how the QTIP program has influenced schools.

Ron Nielsen presented a letter in favor of continuing funding for this program and a resolution in favor of QTIP and answered questions from the committee.

Committee discussion continued.



## [2B - Teacher Recruitment and Retention Project](#)

Chris Jones, Principal, Eagle View Elementary School, presented an overview of the Teacher Recruitment and Retention Project, the impacts of the program, and responded to committee questions.

## **3 . Draft legislation, "American Indian-Alaska Native Related Amendments"**

### [3 - 2020 General Session Draft Legislation "American Indian-Alaska Native Related Amendments \(2020FL0259-010\)"](#)

Sen. Iwamoto presented an overview of the draft legislation "American Indian-Alaska Native Related Amendments" and the background information leading to the draft legislation with the assistance of Rupert Steele, Chairman, Confederate Tribes of the Goshute, and both answered committee questions.

Dr. Marc E. Babitz, Deputy Director, Utah Department of Health, explained the fiscal note for the draft legislation, spoke in favor of the legislation, and responded to questions and comments from the committee.

Sen. Iwamoto commented on the fiscal note and committee discussion continued.

Maurice Smith, Executive Director, Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake City, spoke in favor of the draft legislation.

### [3A - Utah Navajo Health System Letter](#)

Sen. Iwamoto presented a letter in favor of the legislation.

**MOTION:** Sen. Iwamoto moved to approve as a committee bill the draft legislation "American Indian-Alaska Native Amendments." The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 2.

#### Yeas-6

Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. J. Iwamoto  
Rep. L. Perry  
Rep. A. Romero  
Rep. C. Watkins  
Rep. M. Wheatley

#### Nays-0

#### Absent-2

Rep. D. Sagers  
Sen. R. Winterton

## **4 . Draft legislation, "Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women, Girls, and LGBTQ+ Task Force"**

### [4 - 2020 General Session Draft Legislation "Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women, Girls, and LGBTQ Task Force" \(2020F0473-013\)](#)

Rep. Romero presented the background information leading to the draft legislation "Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women, Girls, And LGBTQ+ Task Force", an overview of the draft legislation and answered questions from the committee.

### [4A - Fact Sheet, Restoring Ancestral Winds](#)

Moroni Benally, Restoring Ancestral Winds, explained the mission of Restoring Ancestral Winds and statistics of vulnerable populations, detailed the challenges to their mission, spoke in favor of the draft legislation, and answered committee questions.

Brian Redd, Chief Investigator, Utah Department of Public Safety, spoke in favor of the draft legislation and detailed other efforts to support vulnerable populations.

Maurice Smith spoke to the issue of uniform data collection and spoke in favor of the draft legislation.



Kristina Groves, Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake City, representing herself, expressed support for the draft legislation.

Rupert Steele spoke in favor of the draft legislation.

Cassandra Begay, Pandos, spoke in favor of the draft legislation and urged the committee to continue to support families affected by violence.

Carl Moore, Founding Member and Chairman, Pandos, SLC Air Protectors, expressed support for the task force and the draft legislation.

Carl Moore Sr., representing himself, spoke in favor of the draft legislation and encouraged the committee to support veterans as well.

Effie Keele, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women of Utah, presented the mission statement of the campaign and expressed support for creating the task force.

Wade Jacob Jake Moon, Vice-Chairman, Skull Valley Band of the Goshute, spoke in favor of the task force and draft legislation.

Cynthia Benally, Assistant Professor, University of Utah, spoke in favor of the draft legislation and continuing efforts for representation in education and curriculum.

Mary Allen, Former Vice Chair, Skull Valley Band of the Goshute, expressed support for the draft legislation.

Rep. Romero summed, indicated that there would be no vote on the bill in the meeting due to the need for continued work on the bill's appropriation language and committee discussion continued.

## **5 . Oljato Trading Post Project**

Robert McPherson, Professor of History, Utah State University, East Blanding Campus, presented an overview of the Oljato Trading Post and the restoration project, urged support from the committee, and answered committee questions.

Wilson Atene, Oljato Valley Community, expressed support for the restoration project and the impacts it would have on the community and committee discussion continued.

## **6 . Other Items/Adjourn**

Chair Hinkins explained the committee would not hear the last item on the agenda.

**MOTION:** Sen. Iwamoto moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 2.

### Yeas-6

Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. J. Iwamoto  
Rep. L. Perry  
Rep. A. Romero  
Rep. C. Watkins  
Rep. M. Wheatley

### Nays-0

### Absent-2

Rep. D. Sagers  
Sen. R. Winterton

Chair Hinkins adjourned the meeting at 6:19 p.m.